



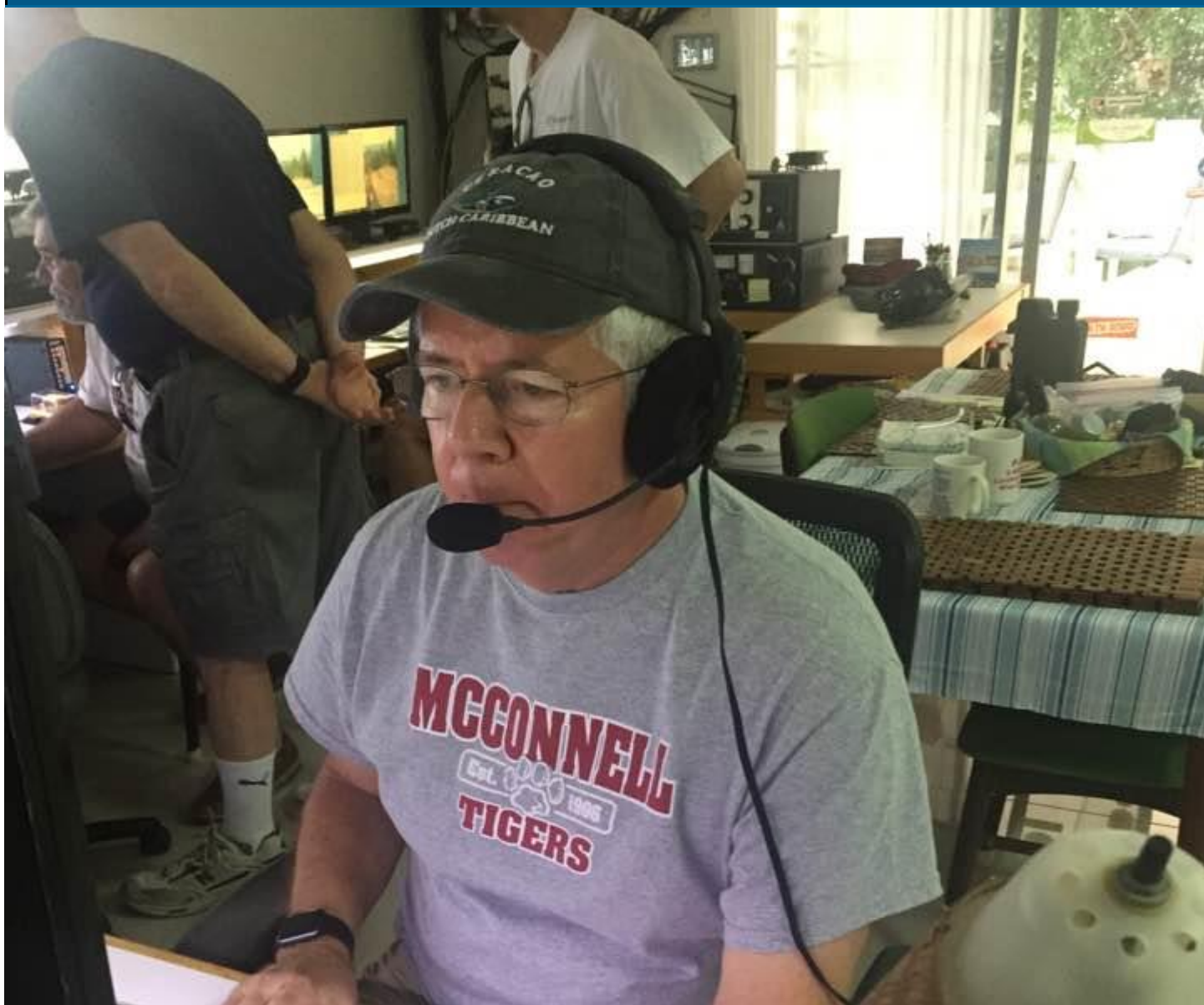
The

# GARzette

The Official Newsletter of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society  
March 2017 <http://www.gars.org/> Volume 26, Issue 3



## GARS Members operate PJ2T in Curaçao!



PJ2/KJ4CNC works McConnell School Thursday Afternoon

# Message from the President

GARS Members,

First, let me thank you for electing me President for the upcoming year. I'll try to continue to build on the foundation that was laid by my predecessors.

Just a little about me. I'm not an engineer. Got my ham license at age 14 and was sure I wanted to be an engineer until I met calculus! Graduated from GA Tech with a BS in Industrial Management. Went to work at Blue Cross as a Medicare auditor (yep, those two 3 hour accounting courses really paid off) and spent about 40 years in healthcare finance. Retired now.

I worked my way slowly from Novice to Technician to General to Advanced to Extra. I'm proof that anybody can do it. If you have goals to upgrade your license class, let GARS members help you get a handle on that theory stuff. And, the operating events can make sense of those questions about digital modes and operating practices.

The next few months will be busy ones for GARS. We plan to operate in the Georgia QSO Party in April from the EAA hangar; the Ford Tri-Motor visit at the airport; May Madness; the Memorial Day parade; Satellites in the Park; and of course, Field Day. I really encourage you to participate by taking a turn at one of the stations for a few minutes. Also, these outings are great opportunities to get to know other members and to ask questions about anything ham radio.

Even if you can't make one of the operating events, there are 104 opportunities to check into two meter nets. Plus there are Saturday morning breakfasts at the Golden Corral and the monthly club meetings. Come and bring a friend.



"The next few months will be busy ones for GARS... These outings are great opportunities to get to know other members and to ask questions about anything ham radio."

Finally, thanks to the GARS members who worked Norm, Ralph, Paul, and me while we portable PJ2 this last week on Curacao. It was great hearing familiar voices and despite lousy conditions everyone sounded great! We had a great time and the early indications are that we will win the multi-operator, multi-transmitter,

high power division of the contest. When we sort out our pictures, we'll try to do a program about the super-station.

As a reward for reading this, you may have an extra raffle ticket at the club meeting. Just

tell the person handing out tickets the value of a **single** resistor that could replace **two 146 ohm** resistors in parallel.

Best regards,

*Mike Weathers, ND4V*

***"It is not the class of license the Amateur holds, but the class of the Amateur that holds the license."***

[Author Unknown]



# GARS March Meeting

## Raspberry Pi in Your Ham Shack

by Jim Reed, N4BFR

*Tuesday, March 14, 2017*

*7:00 pm*

**Sports Aviation Complex—Hangar 1**

**690 Airport Road**

**Lawrenceville, GA 30045**

[Directions](#)

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### **GARS Communications**

2 Meter Repeater  
147.075(+) MHz  
82.5 PL Tone

APRS  
144.390 -- 1200 Baud  
W4GR

D-Star  
WD4STR  
145.060 + (1.4 MHz)  
440.550 + (5 MHz)

2 Meter Repeater  
147.255(+) MHz  
107.2 PL Tone

6 Meter Repeater  
53.110 (-1 MHz)  
No PL tone

70 Cm Repeaters  
444.525(+) MHz  
82.5 PL Tone  
442.100(+)  
100 PL Tone

**Don't forget  
to support our  
advertisers at the  
back of the  
GARzette.**

The *GARzette* is the official monthly newsletter of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society, serving its members and other persons interested in the advancement of the Amateur Radio art.

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If possible, bring your articles to the monthly meeting in Microsoft Word or rich text (.rtf) or text or HTML format or by e-mail to [editor@gars.org](mailto:editor@gars.org). Artwork can be accepted in most any graphics format and can be submitted via e-mail to the same address. Alternate means of submittal can be arranged when necessary.

In keeping with the Amateur Radio spirit, permission is hereby granted for the reproduction of The *GARzette* articles by other Amateur Radio club newsletters provided that proper credit is given to the individual author and *The GARzette*.

The *GARzette* is published each month with the assistance of Norm Schklar, WA4ZXV who prints copies for distribution at meetings, etc. and Dave Bruse, W4DTR, who distributes the news letter electronically.

Deadline for submissions is the 28th of each month for inclusion in the following month's issue.

For additional information view our Website at: <http://www.gars.org>

Newsletter Editor: [editor@gars.org](mailto:editor@gars.org)  
Bill Eggers—WB2RIS 470-238-9603





# Member QRZ Pages

For a few months we will be featuring the QRZ page of various members of GARS.

This month we are featuring the QRZ page of :

## K4SQC - John Kludt

When you click on the link below you will find this picture.

<http://qrz.com/lookup/K4SQC>

Read the notes and get to know him better. You'll be glad you did.

Here is an excerpt from the page:

I have been an amateur radio operator since 1962, age 14. Like many of you I have had a number of interests over the years. Currently I am interested in satellites and I am the AMSAT Coordinator for Georgia. Satellites are currently handled with an IC-910H and several different HT's and an ARROW or Elk while portable. I have also worked satellites with a "FT-1634" - that is a pair of FT-817's.

I do run a Collins KWM-2 and 30L1 on Saturdays for the QCWA net and on other occasions as well.

Watch for another featured GARS member QRZ page in next month's GARzette!



## News, Press Releases, & General Interest

### Ruth KM4LAO at Dayton

Our very own Ruth Willet, KM4LAO has been invited to be one of the speakers at the Dayton Youth Forum this year! Her presentation will be on "Plugging Into Your Valuable Club Resources."

Secondly, Ruth is also going to be the Keynote speaker at the 32nd annual SouthWest Ohio DX Association Dinner (read the official announcement below).

The SouthWest Ohio DX Association ([SWODXA](#)) has announced that Ruth Willet, KM4LAO, will keynote its 32nd annual DX Dinner®, held in conjunction with the 2017 Dayton [Hamvention](#)®. Her topic will be "Experiencing the Hobby of a Lifetime."

A student at Kettering University majoring in mechanical engineering and engineering physics, she was a member of the 2016 Dave Kalter Memorial Youth DX Adventure ([YDXA](#)), which operated from the island of Saba in August 2016.

The DX Dinner will be held on Friday, May 19, at the Dayton Marriott, 1414 S. Patterson Boulevard, starting with a social hour at 5:30 PM.

For more information and to order dinner tickets, visit the [SWODXA events webpage](#). Follow SWODXA on [Twitter](#) (@SWODXA).

Way to go Ruth!!! 73 – *Dave*, W4DTR



# GARS Happenings

**D-STAR Live** will present some of the experts in D-STAR for a panel discussion on various aspects of the D-STAR ecosystem. We will be accepting questions from the audience, both in-person and from the Internet. It will be held on Saturday, March 11, from 12n-4pm at Georgia Gwinnett College in Lawrenceville and is **free** to attend. Join us in person for discussions on:

- Setting up a brand-new radio
- Updating / Programming your radio
- Kenwood TH-D74 D-STAR Radio
- New features of ID-51Plus2 and the soon to be released ID-4100
- Icom G3 Repeater Gateway Software
- D-STAR Comparison to other digital modes
- D-STAR Devices
- Questions from You!

For those attending in person, an Icom ID-5100A mobile will be given away. You must be present to win. For more information and detailed directions,

<http://www.dstarinfo.com/d-star-live-2017.aspx>.

73, *John* WB4QDX

We had a good exam session today at the McConnell Middle School. 1 out of 7 applicants passed. It may not sound that good, but just taking the exam was helpful to these young middle school kids and gave them much needed experience.

Ham exam session results:

- 1 new Technician

Special thanks to the VE's who made this exam session possible:

- Dave, W4DTR (CVE)
- Ralph, KJ4CNC
- Larry, AB4NX
- Bill, WB4WTN
- Sid, N4NQ (Co-CVE)
- Chuck, KK4TKJ (Co-CVE)
- Rick, N4XYY
- Mike, ND4V
- Donna, KM4FMW
- Norm, WA4ZXV

Thanks & 73,

*Dave Bruse*, W4DTR



# GARS Happenings (Cont'd)

## KD4TGR Participates in the School Club Roundup

OK, it's official. KD4TGR scored 10,094 points and came in 9th middle school nationwide during School Club Roundup (SCR) last month. Great improvement over last fall, now that we have our permanent antenna to use. Thanks again to Ralph Pickwick III, Charles McCord, and Donna Daniel McCord for all of your help during the week! The 7th grader in the green shirt is our newest licensed student, KN4AXM - Thank you also to the GARS VE team who conducted a testing session the

week before SCR last month. 73, *Jean Delashmit*



Chuck was the control operator two afternoons



Our newest licensed operator on the air (KN4AXM)



Club members on the air and logging



James Reeves (KF4AQO) and Ralph watching as not-yet-licensed students were able to get on the air



We rotated so that everyone who wanted experience could log or call CQ. Maggie (KM4PTW) worked several pileups



Our ham shack setup



## GARS Happenings (Cont'd)



Ruth KM4LAO (via Skype) and Sharon KM4TVU earned awards for most contacts made during Winter Field Day. Congratulations!



GARS earned Chaser and Activator Awards (with 5 Star Activator endorsement) for our National Parks on the Air (NPOTA) activities. Thanks to all GARS members who made this possible! From left to right: Dave W4DTR, Ruth KM4LAO (via Skype), Bill WB2RIS, Pam WB1AKQ



## March 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 <b>February 2017</b> 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 <b>April 2017</b> 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
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Ruth KM4LAO is pictured in the 2017 ARRL Calendar operating for National Parks on the Air NPO-TA) at Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park (MP01)!

## Member Spotlight

Jen Gilfort, [jgilfort@arri.org](mailto:jgilfort@arri.org)

## John Ackermann, N8UR

**This ham applies his radio skills to digital technologies and precise time and frequency measurement.**

1, NSUR, has always  
nd experimenter. He  
ttering with ham  
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and reliability," he  
human ear and brain  
markable signal prob-  
the things that a  
with digital signals  
"



John Ackermann, N8UR.  
[John Ackermann, N8UR,  
photo]

counter to a meeting, let  
with handhelds take turn  
watching the readout on  
"I think it was love at fir  
said. He built a counter i  
things continued from th

It may seem an unlikely leap from ham radio frequency measurement for John, a life-long equipment collector. He

The "time nuts" like to with one clock knows what man with two clocks is not always been fascinated with time measurement as a clock with two clocks, no matter how exactly the same rate. The slight disturbances over time always noise, if you have mental sensitive enough to

in the '80s, then started to dabble in Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol (TCP/IP) over packet radio.

Check out GARS member John Ackermann N8UR, featured in the “Member Spotlight” section of the April 2017 QST!



# Beginner's Corner

## Ham Radio and the Weather

That Handy Talkie you got when you passed your license exam (You did buy a radio, I hope.), is more than just something with which we enjoy in pursuing our hobby. It can be a life saver. First, most two meter, dual-band or tri-band radios are capable of picking up the National Weather Service (NWS) weather radio broadcasts. Some will alert you when severe weather threatens.

My venerable Yaesu VX-100 has all the NWS frequencies pre-programmed. All I have to do is press the number 1 on my radio, and there they are. My first dual-band radio was an older Kenwood HT. It didn't have any specific button to press to get the weather, but the previous owner had programmed all the frequencies into the radio. Of course, we can't transmit on them. The radio won't let you, but we can still listen! Here in the Atlanta area, we receive our weather broadcasts on 162.550 MHz. With my external J-pole antenna, I can receive just about any NWS transmitter in the state. If our Atlanta station goes down, and it has, I can pick up a nearby transmitter. Here are the other NWS frequencies: 162.400, 162.425, 162.450, 162.475, and 162.525.

Some HT's and even base stations may not even advertise that they receive NWS weather broadcasts. Yet, it still might. The best way to find out if yours will is to punch in the nearest frequency (162.550), and see what happens.

I do highly recommend every household have at least one NWS radio. You can pick one up at a department store, home improvement store, or even grocery stores. They can be had for as little as \$29.95, and can save your life! Try to get one that has Specific Area Message Encoding (SAME). The NWS transmitters send out alerts for severe weather, and we do get our share here in Georgia. You can set one of these radios to alert you only for the county you are in, or also in neighboring counties as well, if you wish. Mine is set for only Gwinnett County. I belong to ARES, and I am a weather head. When severe weather threatens the area, I receive several alerts. We all need to be aware of bad weather.

Getting back to your HT, you should have programmed your radio for all the repeaters in the area, as well as the simplex channels. When severe weather threatens, tune into your local repeater. Many repeaters host a Skywarn net, or an ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Service) net that will activate. You can monitor severe weather here, two.

Better yet, join your local ARES organization. And learn how to report threatening weather when you encounter it. Here is where we amateurs "pay" for our licenses. When you took your ham radio test, you handed over a small sum or money to take the test. That money goes to help the volunteer examiners buy the supplies necessary to administer the test to you. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) does not charge for amateur radio licenses. Other entities with radio licenses pay big bucks to the FCC for the privilege of transmitting. Ask anyone who owns a radio or television station. It is assumed that in times of emergency the amateur radio community will rise up and provide emergency communications in aid to the general public.

Knowing what to report and how to report is learned in your ARES group. Get involved in ARES. Your actions could save lives!

73 de *David Harden*, KJ4CMY



# Net Managers Corner

## Monday Night 2 Meter “Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net”

### GARS NEEDS MEMBERS TO SERVE AS NET CONTROL STATIONS!

GARS is a great Amateur Radio service club and we have the membership and awards to prove it. Our club is a very busy and active club and we use the Monday night net to get the information out to our members. Weekly participation is needed to make our net function well. There is only a small group of very dedicated people that make the net happen each week, and we need more members to volunteer to serve as Net Control Stations (NCS) on a rotating basis.

Out of almost 300 members, there are only fifteen primary people who serve as NCS for the GARS net every Monday night. In no particular order, they are:

Norm - WA4ZXV	Kyle - W4KDA	Mitch - N0DIM
Ruth - KM4LAO	Hal - W4IGE	Don - KW4AL
Ray - N4GYN	Sandy - KJ4DRO	John - WB4QDX
Bill - KK4AUA	David - KK4KAF	Kevin - KK4WOG
Chuck - KK4TKJ	Mike - KK4KHS	Donna - KM4FMW

As GARS Net Manager (Chuck KK4TKJ), I really need 26 people to fill NCS positions. I do plan and post the schedule months in advance. Any conditions will be accommodated that you as a rotating NCS need to place on the scheduling of your duties. If your plans change, I can make adjustments for the schedule to work, and I will make those changes happen as soon as I am notified of a problem. As Net Manager, I also send out reminders each week to let the NCS scheduled know he or she is NCS for the next Monday night net. In short, serving as a rotating NCS is a small duty but a great contribution to the club. The “Want, Swap, Sell Information Net” begins promptly at 19:30 every Monday night and runs about 45 minutes. As a scheduled NCS, you will request the assistance of a volunteer alternate NCS each time you have Net Control. Your simple duties will be to tune in to the GARS repeater, read the script, take a few notes and forward the information to me for record keeping.

Please lend a hand and contact me at [KK4TKJ@arrl.net](mailto:KK4TKJ@arrl.net). Sign up to help support the effort that makes GARS the great club that it is.

73 and see you on the Nets!

*Chuck McCord*, KK4TKJ

GARS Net Manager



### Don't miss the “KNOW IT ALL” Net Wednesday nights, 8:30-9:30 pm



We have moved to a new format. We begin with current events and announcements. Then we Introduce New Technology. Then we have check-ins and general discussion. Post net is Rag Chew format.

*Jeff*—AB4HF

Everyone is having great fun on this net! Come join us and become a “KNOW IT ALL”.

**TIME: 8:30 every Wednesday evening on the GARS repeater - 2m 147.075 + PL 82.5**

# GARS Membership Page

## New GARS Members in February

**Jackson Britt (KM4PTV)**

**John La Fon (KB4WGU)**

**New Members: 2**

**Total Members as of March 1, 2017  
280**

**Join us for our weekly  
breakfast gathering at  
7:30 AM most Saturdays**

**at**

**Golden Corral  
2155 Riverside Parkway  
Lawrenceville, GA 30043**

**([Directions](#))**

**The following members are  
celebrating birthdays  
in March:**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!  
From All of Us at GARS**

**Rich Arland (K7SZ)**

**Deidra Atkin**

**David Bruse (W4DTR)**

**Jack Mason (KK4ULP)**

**William Santangelo (KM4EQS)**

**Robert Smith (KK4KHS)**

**Bryan Spear (KM4QHG)**

**Marvin Whatley (KK4QCI)**

**Jackson Wiggs (KM4GBJ)**

**Ed Woodrick (WA4YIH)**

**Spring forward**

**Don't forget to set  
clocks ahead  
one hour  
at 2 a.m.  
Sunday.  
(March 12)**



## **GARS MEMBERSHIP**

Your current GARS membership status is shown in the monthly newsletter e-mail towards the bottom of the message.

To become a GARS member, or to renew your GARS membership, please visit our website—<http://www.gars.org>

To make changes to your GARS membership (moved, new e-mail address, new phone number, etc.), please e-mail the Membership Committee - [membership@gars.org](mailto:membership@gars.org)

You can **renew or update** your Amateur Radio license information with the FCC at their website for free <http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/index.htm?job=home>

To update your ARRL information, please visit their website - <http://www.arrl.org>

Membership Chair: Karen Albritton, KI4HPP  
Committee Members: Dave Bruse, W4DTR, Pam Meridy, WB1AKQ



## ARRL CONTESTING INFO

### From ARRL Contest Calendar

> **NOTE:** For more information click the links <

#### March 2017

4-5 [International DX - Phone](#)

#### April 2017

16 [Rookie Roundup - SSB](#)

#### June 2017

10-12 [June VHF QSO Party](#)

18 [Kid's Day](#)

24-25 [Field Day](#)

#### July 2017

8-9 [IARU HF World Championship](#)

#### August 2017

5-6 [222 MHz and Up Distance Contest](#)

19-20 [10 GHz and Up - Round 1](#)

20 [Rookie Roundup - RTTY](#)

#### September 2017

9-10 [EME - 2.3 GHz and Up](#)

9-11 [September VHF QSO Party](#)

16-17 [10 GHz and Up - Round 2](#)

#### October 2017

7-8 [EME - 50 to 1296 MHz](#)

16-20 [School Club Roundup](#)

#### November 2017

4-5 [EME - 50 to 1296 MHz](#)

4-6 [Nov. Sweepstakes - CW](#)

18-20 [Nov. Sweepstakes - Phone](#)

#### December 2017

1-3 [160 Meter](#)

9-10 [10 Meter](#)

17 [Rookie Roundup-CW](#)

## 2018

#### January 2018

1 [Straight Key Night](#)

6 [Kid's Day](#)

6-7 [RTTY Roundup](#)

17 [January VHF Sweepstakes](#)

**For more information:**

<http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar>

## HAMFEST CALENDAR

### 05/19/2017 | [2017 Dayton Hamvention](#)

**Location:** Xenia, OH

**Type:** non-ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Dayton Amateur Radio Association

**Website:** <http://www.hamvention.org>

### Southeast US

### 03/18/2017 | [The Great Southern Hamfest](#)

**Location:** Thomasville, GA

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Thomasville Amateur Radio Club

**Website:** <http://www.thomasvilleamateurradioclub.com>

### 04/22/2017 | [Calhoun Hamfest](#)

**Location:** Sugar Valley, GA

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Cherokee Capital Amateur Radio Society

**Website:** <http://k4woc.com>

### 04/29/2017 | [CARS Swapmeet Hamfest](#)

**Location:** Pooler, GA

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Coastal Amateur Radio Society

**Website:** [http://coastalamateurradiosociety.net/wpW4LHSblog/?page\\_id=559](http://coastalamateurradiosociety.net/wpW4LHSblog/?page_id=559)

### 06/03/2017 | [Georgia Section Convention \(Atlanta Hamfestival\)](#)

**Location:** Marietta, GA

**Type:** ARRL Convention

**Sponsor:** Atlanta Radio Club (W4DOC) & Kennehoochee Amateur Radio Club (W4BTI)

**Website:** <http://atlantahamfest.com>

**For more information:**

<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests-and-conventions-calendar>

# NOW HAM RADIO



## BSA Venture Crew 73 Wants You!

### Venture Crew 73 is for you.

If you are between 14 and 21 years old, enjoy outdoor activities, and have an interest in radio technology

- Venture Crews are part of the Boy Scouts of America.
- *Venture crew 73 is chartered by the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society.*
- Venture crew 73 is coed.
- *Meetings are on the second Tuesday of the month, 7:00 pm, at EAA 690 Hangar at:  
Briscoe Field - Sports Aviation Complex  
Hangar 1, 690 Airport Road  
Lawrenceville, GA 30045*
- Crew 73 is a youth-run organization, which means that our Crew President and other youth plan the Crew's outings and activities each month.

*We enjoy:*

- ◊ *Camping*
- ◊ *Hiking*
- ◊ *Horseback Riding*
- ◊ *Shooting Sports*

- Crew activities usually mix high adventure and the use of Amateur Radio.
- For more information, attend our next meeting or contact:

**Steve Back, WB2OGY**

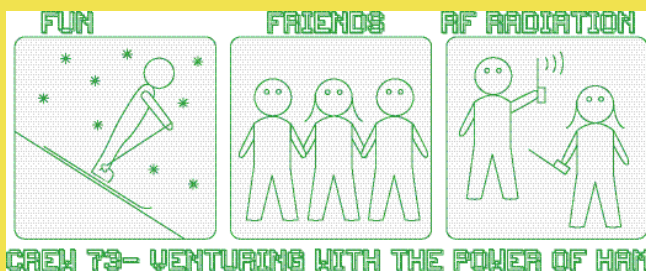
Venture Crew 73 Committee Chairman  
Phone: 770-712-9069

E-mail: [committeechair@venturecrew73.org](mailto:committeechair@venturecrew73.org)

**Kevin McClure, KF4HFN**

Venture Crew 73 Advisor  
Phone: 706 318 2519

Email: [advisor@venturecrew73.org](mailto:advisor@venturecrew73.org)



## GARS Officers and Committee Chairs

Mike Weathers, President	ND4V	
Rick Cobb, Vice President	N4XYY	
Leland Ford, Secretary	K9SDR	
Sid Weaver, Treasurer	N4NQ	
Paul Kelley, Program Manager	W4KLY	
Karen Albritton Membership Chair	KI4HPP	
Dave Bruse, VE Team Leader	W4DTR	
David Adcock, Webmaster and Field Day Chair	KA4KKF	
Dorothy Jubon, Public Information Officer	N2DLJ	
Ralph Pickwick TechFest Chair, Apparel Mgr, Education Chair	KJ4CNC	
Bill Eggers, GARzette Editor	WB2RIS	
Bill Cherepy, W4GR Trustee	WB4WTN	
Eddie Foust, Repeater Chair	WD4JEM	
Mike Weathers, WAS-Checker and Historian	ND4V	
Chuck McCord, Net Manager	KK4TKJ	
Mike Swiderski, Technical Advisor	K4HBI	
Mitch Matteau Winter Field Day	N0DIM	
Pam Meridy GA QSO Party and VHF Contest Chair	WB1AKQ	
(Vacant) Multimedia Chair		

### DIRECTORS

Kyle Albritton	W4KDA	
David Adcock	KA4KKF	
Norm Schklar	WA4ZXV	



## EXTRA! EXTRA!

### April Meeting

#### **Battle Bots - Team Bombshell** By Randall Farmer, N4FET

#### **Repeater Status**

147.075 operational in Snellville  
147.255 operation in Snellville  
444.525 operational in Snellville  
Link remote receivers being added  
442.100 operational at Goshen Springs  
145.590 operational at Bogan Road  
6M currently down



**L&M Mobility**  
Robert (Mike) Smith  
5191 La Paloma Dr.  
Lilburn, GA 30047  
Phone (404)-509-3104  
Smithrm70@hotmail.com

**SERVICE & REPAIR**  
Power Chairs • Lift Chairs • Scooters

### **GARS Recurring Calendar**

- ◆ Monthly club meeting is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 7 pm
- ◆ Every Monday at 7:30 pm: GARS Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net + 8:30 pm: ARES Training on the GARS 147.075 MHz repeater
- ◆ Every Wednesday at 8:30 pm: GARS Know It All Net on the GARS 147.075 MHz repeater
- ◆ Every Saturday at 7:30 am: GARS Weekly Breakfast, Golden Corral Restaurant, Riverside Drive, Lawrenceville
- ◆ Second Sunday at 2:00 pm: GARS Ham Exam Session, Fire Station #24 2735 Mall of Georgia Blvd Buford, GA 30519

## FEBRUARY MEETING MINUTES

Rick, N4XYY called the meeting to order at 7:02pm

First time visitors were welcomed and roundtable introductions were made. Ticket upgrades were recognized. Attendance: 61

### General Business

Sid, N4NQ, gave the treasure's report. Voting took place and the treasure's report was approved

Karen, KI4HPP, gave the membership report: GARS has 283 members.

### Future Programs

- **March 14th** - Jim Reed, N4BFR "Raspberry Pi in your ham shack"
- **April 11th** - Randall Farmer, N4FET "Battle Bots - Team Bombshell"

### Event Recaps & General Updates

#### **2017 Officer Election**

President – Mike Weathers	Secretary – Leland Ford
Vice President – Rick Cobb	Program Manager – Paul Kelley
Treasurer – Sid Weaver	

#### **Techfest 2017**

- 288 attendees
- Big Prize Winner (Yaesu FT-991) – Noah Dotson
- Chili Cook-off:
  - 1st Place – Rick, N4XYY; 2nd Place – Neal, W4HNG

#### **Winter Field Day**

- 456 Contacts Made: 76 CW, 61 Digital, 319 Phone
- Point Totals: 4,500 Bonus Points, 13,988 Total Points
- Awards to Ruth, KM4LAO and Sharon, KM4TVU for most contacts made

#### **Program**

Rick, N4XYY and Nick, N0NCQ presented Greg Abernathy, AI4UD with a certificate of appreciation for his presentation "Electro Magnetic Pulse - EMP"

### Net Schedule

- GARS Want, Swap, Sell and Information, Monday's @ 7:30pm
- ARES HF Voice Training Net, Monday @ 8:00pm
- ARES Training, Monday's @ 8:30pm
- ARES Digital Training Net, Monday's @ 9:00pm
- Know-it-All, hosted by Jeff, AB4HF, Wednesday's @ 8:30pm

### Upcoming Events (for additional details go to

[www.GARS.org](http://www.GARS.org))

#### **Element 2 Technician HamCram**

Date: March 25<sup>th</sup> Location: 800 Hi Hope Road  
Time: 8:00am – 5:00pm, Cost: \$20.00 (license fee & lunch)

#### **Georgia QSO Party**

Date: April 8 - 9<sup>th</sup> Location: EAA 690 Hangar  
Time: 2 - 8pm (setup at 11am)  
Plan to operate 4 station (20, 40 Voice, Digital, 80 CW)

Meeting concluded around 9:00pm

*Nick*, AB4CQ, Secretary

## EXTRA! EXTRA!

### GARS Calendar of Events for 2017

- GARS Breakfast - Every Saturday morning
- GARS Ham Exam Session - 2nd Sunday every month
- TechFest January 14
- Winter Field Day January 28 & 29
- Georgia QSO Party April 8 & 9
- North metro area Fox Hunt April
- May Madness May
- Satellites in the Park TBA
- Memorial Day Parade May 29
- ARC/KARC Hamfest 1st Saturday of June
- Field Day June 24 & 25
- W4GR Spcl Event - 40th Anniv. Summer-TBA
- Maker Faire TBA
- Sept VHF/UHF Contest September 9
- Stone Mt. Hamfest TBA
- JOTA - 3rd Weekend of ... October
- HamCram TBA
- Christmas Party TBA



### GARS CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR MARCH 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
February 26	February 27	February 28	1 8:30 - 9:30 pm GARS Know-It-All Net	2	3	4 7:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral Riverside Drive
5	6 7:30 - 8:00 pm GARS 2m Net	7	8 8:30 - 9:30 pm GARS Know-It-All Net	9	10	11 7:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral Riverside Drive
12 <b>GARS VE Team Testing Session Starts at 2:00 pm Gwinnett Co. Fire Station #24</b>	13 7:30 - 8:00 pm GARS 2m Net	14 5:00 - 6:30 pm Dinner at Flying Machine 7:00 - 9:00 pm GARS Meeting	15 8:30 - 9:30 pm GARS Know-It-All Net	16	17	18 7:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral Riverside Drive
19	20 7:30 - 8:00 pm GARS 2m Net	21	22 8:30 - 9:30 pm GARS Know-It-All Net	23	24	25 Breakfast Technician HamCram 8 am—5 pm
26	27 7:30 - 8:00 pm GARS 2m Net	28	29 8:30 - 9:30 pm GARS Know-It-All Net	30	31	<b>April 1</b> 7:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral Riverside Drive



## Metro Testing Sessions

*GARS publishes Metro Atlanta VE exam schedules as a service and is not responsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions. Find additional sessions online at <http://www.arrl-ga.org>.*

### First Sunday, ODD Months

2 pm (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, & Nov)  
VEC: WCARS  
Braselton Public Utility Building  
4986 Highway 53, Braselton, GA  
Roger Gibson, WB4T  
(770) 271-4210 or (770) 712-9560  
[w4rlg@bellsouth.net](mailto:w4rlg@bellsouth.net)

### First Sunday, EVEN Months

2 pm (Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec)  
VEC: WCARS  
Hall County EOC  
470 Crescent Dr. Gainesville, Ga.  
Perry Roper, KO4RD  
(770) 536-3056

### Second Saturday

10:00 AM  
Alpharetta North Park, Adult Activities Center  
13450 Cogburn Rd, Alpharetta, GA 30004  
Ian Kahn, KM4IK  
E-mail: [km4ik.ian@gmail.com](mailto:km4ik.ian@gmail.com)

### Second Saturday, ODD Months

VEC: ARRL  
8:30 a.m.  
GMC Community Ctr  
5325 Leon St.  
Stone Mountain, GA  
Frank Haynes, KV4SP  
(678) 467-3712

### Second Sunday

VEC: W5YI  
2 pm  
Fire Station #24  
Mall of Georgia Boulevard  
Buford, GA 30519  
Contact: Dave Bruse, W4DTR  
E-mail: [exams@gars.org](mailto:exams@gars.org)

### Third Saturday

VEC: W5YI  
2 pm @ Barrow Co. Emerg. Serv. Bldg  
66 McElroy Street  
Winder, GA 30680  
Steve Donellan, N5SMD  
(404) 520-0368  
E-mail: [n5smd@comcast.net](mailto:n5smd@comcast.net)

(cont. next column)

## Ham Exam Results

### February Results

The GARS VE team had a successful exam session on February 12. Five applicants tested and all five passed exams as follows:

- One new Technician class
- Two upgraded to General class
- One reactivated his General class license by taking the Tech exam.

Additionally, one applicant successfully completed the Triple Crown! He took and passed all elements to earn his Amateur Extra license in one sitting. Congratulations to Brian Marshall, KX4BD for his accomplishment!

Many thanks to the following VE's who made the session possible:

- Dave Bruse, W4DTR (CVE)
- Rick Cobb, N4XYX
- Donna McCord, KM4FMW
- Ralph Pickwick, KJ4CNC
- Pam Meridy, WB1AKQ
- Frank Haynes, KV4SP

73,

*Chuck McChord*, KK4TKJ (Co  
-CVE)

GARS VE Team Leader

E-mail: [exams@gars.org](mailto:exams@gars.org)

GARS VE Website:

[http://groups.yahoo.com/group/  
GARS\\_VE\\_Team/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/GARS_VE_Team/)

### Fourth Tuesday

ARRL VEC  
7 pm @ United Way Service Center  
6279 Fairburn Rd., Douglasville  
Jessie Clower, KB4WFK  
(770) 942-6466

### Fourth Sunday

2:30 pm Georgia Tech  
VanLeer Elec. Building  
Rm. W218, 777 Atlantic Dr.  
For more information go to  
[www.w4aql.com](http://www.w4aql.com) and click on "Test  
Sessions"

## Metro Club Meetings

### First Tuesday

Kennehoochee ARC  
Downtown Marietta  
Fire Station #1, Training Room  
112 Haynes Street  
Marietta, Georgia 30060  
Meeting begins at 7:00pm  
Talk In 146.880(-)

### First Thursday

Atlanta Radio Club  
Georgia Red Cross HQ  
1955 Monroe Dr., Atlanta  
Meeting is at 7:30pm  
Talk In -146.820(-)

N.E. Georgia ARC  
Commerce Public Library  
1344 South Broad Street, Commerce  
Meeting is at 6:30pm  
Talk In - 147.225(+), PL 123.0

### Second Monday

Georgia Tech ARC  
Room W218  
Van Leer Electrical Engineering Bldg.  
Georgia Tech Campus  
Meeting at 7:00pm

### Second Thursday

Alford Memorial Radio Club  
Annistown Road Baptist Church  
Annistown Rd & Spain Rd  
Stone Mountain  
Dinner at 6:00pm, Meeting at 7:30pm  
Talk In - 146.760(-)

### Second Saturday

North GA QRP Club  
Board Room of The Shepherd Center  
2020 Peachtree Rd, NW, Atlanta  
at 10:00 AM

### Third Tuesday

North Fulton Amateur Radio League  
Alpharetta Recreation & Parks Dept  
Alpharetta Adult Activity Center  
13450 Cogburn Road  
Alpharetta, GA 30004  
meeting at 7:30pm  
Talk In - 145.47(-)

For more information, go to: [http://  
www.gars.org/](http://www.gars.org/)

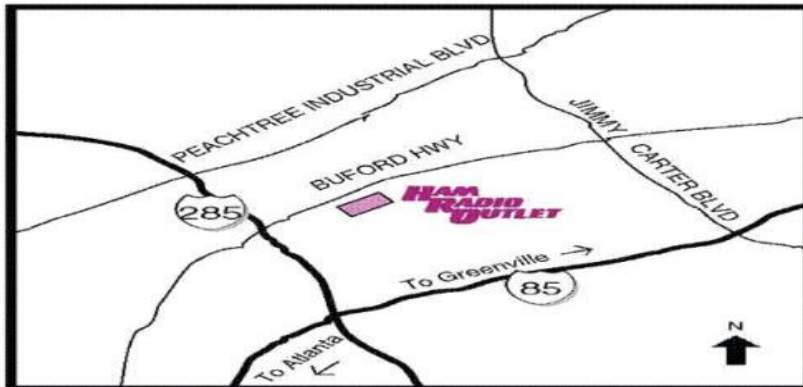
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